

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Before the FIELD OF THE INVENTION section, please add the following section heading and new paragraph [0001]:

STATEMENT OF RELATED APPLICATION

This is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application 09/820,540, filed March 29, 2001, and entitled "Methods and Structures for Reducing Lateral Diffusion through Cooperative Barrier Layers." ¹ NOW U.S. Pat. No. 6,664,137.